

**CHAPTER NO. 168**

**SENATE BILL NO. 277**

**By Harper, Burks**

**Substituted for: House Bill No. 53**

**By Pruitt, Marrero**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 37 and Title 41, relative to disclosures of certain deaths by the department of children's services and the department of correction.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 6, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section 4-3-611. The Commissioner of Corrections shall provide a report of any death of any person in the custody of the department at a department facility within ten (10) business days of the death of such person to the state senator and representative representing such person. The legislators representing such person shall be determined by the home address of the person in the State of Tennessee. This section shall not apply to the deaths of persons who were not residents of Tennessee prior to being placed in the custody of the department.


SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section 37-5-124. The Commissioner of Children's Services shall provide a report of any death of any person in the custody of the department at a department facility within ten (10) business days of the death of such person to the state senator and representative representing such person. The legislators representing such person shall be determined by the home address of the person in the State of Tennessee. This section shall not apply to the deaths of persons who were not residents of Tennessee prior to being placed in the custody of the department.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: May 5, 2005**

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**APPROVED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 2005**

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR